

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0018] at page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0018] The inventor has discovered that it is possible to control the capillarity in the confined regions between the container and the crown cap 10 by the addition of additives to the composition of the primer layer 22. Capillarity, or capillary action, is a phenomenon in which the surface of a liquid is observed to be elevated or depressed where it comes into contact with a solid. Capillarity is a result of the combined effect of adhesion, the attractive (or repulsive) force between the molecules of the liquid and those of the solid surface, and cohesion, the attractive force between the molecules of the liquid. The relative magnitudes of the adhesion and cohesion forces determine the shape of a liquid surface in contact with a solid surface and other fluids (usually air). Specific liquid-solid combinations are classified as wetting or non-wetting, depending on the contact angle between the liquid and solid surfaces. If the contact angle is ~~greater~~ less than 90° , the liquid is wetting; if it is ~~less than~~ greater than 90° , the liquid is non-wetting. Wetting behavior is determined by the particular liquid-solid combination. In known primer materials, a wetting interface exists between the crown cap and the bottle surface covered by the cap, leading to the accumulation of water and moisture in the confined spaces there between due to capillary action.

Please replace paragraph [0019] at page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0019] Based on the physical principle just explained, a drop of water forms a contact angle of approximately 15° against a glass surface. For this reason water in a container forms a concave shape in a small diameter glass pipe placed therein and, as a result, the liquid level in the pipe rises until certain height above the water level in the container. There are materials that because of their very low surface tension form with water relatively high contact angles. One such material is ~~Teflon~~ TEFLON, whose contact angle is around 112° .

Thus, if a small diameter ~~Teflon~~ TEFLON pipe is introduced into a container with water, the liquid surface inside of the pipe will assume a convex shape and, as a consequence, the water level in the ~~Teflon~~ TEFLON pipe will drop below the water level in the container instead of rising. The present invention uses this principle to get a crown whose internal surface, once mounted on the bottle, remains dry by preventing the upward flow of water by capillary effect to the confined region between the cap and the bottle. The way of getting the repellent properties of the crown is to add in correct doses the repellent substance to the primer coating to be applied on the interior surface of the crown caps.

Please replace paragraph [0020] at page 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0020] In order to create a non-wetting interface between the crown cap 10 and the bottle neck surface, the choice of additive to be added to the primer composition depends on the material used for the primer layer 22. For example, for a PVC-based primer, including, but not limited to, polyesters, ~~poliketones~~ polyketones, epoxies, phenolics, and ~~poliaerilies~~ polyacrylics, the material of choice is ~~Zonyl~~ ZONYL, wherein the ~~Zonyl~~ ZONYL concentration in the primer layer 22 composition has a dry weight ratio ranging from approximately 1 to approximately 10%, and is preferably about 4%. For a PVC-free lacquer primer, including, for example, but not limited to, polyesters and epoxy-phenolic resins, the material of choice can be ~~Teflon~~ TEFLON. In this case, the ~~Teflon~~ TEFLON concentration in the primer composition has a dry weight ratio ranging from approximately 1 to approximately 10 %, and is preferably about 7 %. Those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the instant invention is applicable to different types of caps, including crown caps and roll-on caps. In addition, it is also possible to apply a layer of non-wetting material to only a portion of the inner surface of the cap, including the surface between the edge of the cap and a region of the inner surface in sealing contact with the opening of the container.